Energy utilised for Lighting purposes

764. PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO:

PROF. (MRS.) ASIMA CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of the total electrical energy which is utilised for lighting purposes;

(b) in view of the low efficiency of the usual incandescent lamps, what steps are being taken to decrease the lighting load by introducing energy effective light sources;

(c) whether wide publicity is given to such schemes; and

(d) whether any incentives are contemplated to encourage domestic consumers to use energy effective light sources?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The consumption of electricity for lighting purposes is not being metered separately. However, electricity consumption in the domestic and commercial sectors is 13.26 per cent and 6.06 per cent of the total consumption respectively.

(b) Efforts are being made to pursuade consumers to use energy efficient lighting equipment. Some of the State Governments have already started using more efficient type of lamps in place of the usual incandescent lamp. In major cities like Delhi and Calcutta, the use of incandescent lamps in street lighting is being progressively given up in favour of more efficient type of lamp such as fluroscent tubes, mercury vapour lamps and sodium vapour lamps.

(c) Guidelines and pamphlets highlighting the advantages of using energy efficient lamps and other equipment have been circulated by the Central Electricity Authority to all the State Governments/Undertakings for the purpose of wide circulation.

(d) To encourage the domestic consumers to use energy effective light sources, the aproach is to make them increasingly conscious of the inherent advantages, such as saving in the electricity bill, longer life of the lighting source and increased lumen output etc., which result from the use of more efficient lamps. No separate incentive to domestic consumers is being contemplated.

Price Hike of Petrol and Petroleum products

765. SHRI SYED AHMAD HASHMI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of petrol and petroleum products, including cooking gas, were steeply increased on January 31, 1980, just 10 months after the earlier price hike, despite the fact that there has been sharp decline in oil prices in the international market;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what is its likely impact on the general price trends; and

(d) what is the estimated additional revenue earnings as a result of these hikes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Need to raise aditional resources for the plan and contain the rapid growth in the consumption of the petroleum products, and curtail the value of imports.